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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 1009765-000053

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Ruedi HESS) Group Art Unit: 3652
Application No.: 10/501,532) Examiner: Dean J. Kramer
Filed: December 30, 2004) Confirmation No.: 6367
For: SLING)

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In an Official Action dated September 26, 2006, the Examiner has indicated that an election of one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- the species of Figure 2;
- the species of Figure 3;
- the species of Figure 4;
- the species of Figure 5;
- the species of Figure 6
- the species of Figure 7;
- the species of Figures 8, 10 and 11; and
- the species of Figure 9.

Accordingly, Applicant provisionally elects the species of Figure 2, with traverse. Presently, claims 1-3 and 10-15 read on the elected species as well as various non-elected species. At least claims 1-3 and 10-11 are generic.

Applicant submits that the requirement for an election is in error because there would be no undue burden in examining any non-elected species with the elected species. In addition, because various claims are generic to the species identified by the Examiner, and because these claims are considered to be

allowable, it is respectfully submitted that the election requirement is in error.

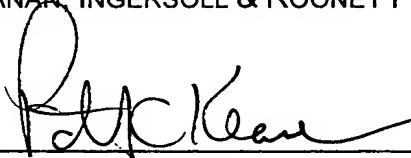
Further, upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to claims directed to a reasonable number of species. It is respectfully submitted that the non-elected species identified by the Examiner constitute a reasonable number.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the aforementioned species election is respectfully requested. The provisional election is hereby made without prejudice to Applicant's right to file a divisional application or applications should the election requirement become final.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 24, 2006

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